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Maine Oil Prices Inch Higher on Jobs Report

Augusta--- The Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security (OEIS) conducted its oil survey and found that the current statewide average cash price for No. 2 heating oil to be at **\$2.71 per gallon**, up three cents from last week.

"Excellent job market news helped push oil prices higher. The increases in crude and heating oil prices today represent a delayed reaction to Friday's news of gains in payrolls and manufacturing activity in March," said OEIS Director, John Kerry. "Record high temperatures over the Easter weekend shouldn't make us complacent on weatherization and conservation; there's no better day than today to shore up our homes and businesses in preparation for next winter."

As of April 5th, 2010

Heating Oil	Statewide	Southwest	Central	Eastern	Western	Northern
Average	2.71	2.62	2.75	2.75	2.65	2.91
High	2.93	2.90	2.85	2.85	2.75	2.93
Low	2.50	2.50	2.63	2.63	2.51	2.90
Kerosene	3.07	2.99	3.12	3.11	2.98	3.28
Propane	2.76					

It is important to note that the price for heating oil is a statewide average and that prices in a given geographic region of the state may be considerably higher or lower than the statewide average. Within the OEIS sample, the lowest actual heating oil price of \$2.50 per gallon was found in the Southwestern region. The highest price of \$2.93 per gallon was found in the Northern region. The statewide kerosene price average is \$3.07 per gallon at this time. The statewide average for propane based on a use of 600 gallons a year is \$2.76 per gallon. The table above provides current Maine cash prices in dollars rounded to the nearest penny.

At the time of this release the price of WTI crude oil, major driver of refined product prices, including heating oil was \$86.09.

For assistance please contact Efficiency Maine and ask about their Efficiency Maine Weatherization Program. It links Maine homeowners with qualified, certified contractors who provide one-stop-shop access to a whole-house approach to home improvements. The first 4,000 **pre-approved** homes in the program will receive up to \$3,000 each in incentives for approved energy-efficiency projects that meet minimum heating and hot water energy savings requirements. For program details call 877-334-6583 or visit www.efficiencymaine.com. Businesses should take advantage of Efficiency Maine's small business loan program to make energy upgrades: http://www.efficiencymaine.com/business_programs.htm. The next survey is scheduled for April 12, 2010.

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